

# Citizen Resolution # 510221

(For Hearing Officer completion)



## Pass the Recovering America's Wildlife Act

Similar to the rest of the country, Wisconsin has 417 "At Risk" nongame fish and wildlife species, that, unless population declines are reversed, will become endangered and threatened. The major reason for these population declines is loss of habitat.

A large bipartisan coalition of Senators and Representatives in the current Congress is reintroducing Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA), which will dedicate \$1.4 billion nationwide to address this critical need. The bill implements the recommendation of national business and conservation leaders that funds be allocated to conserve the Species of Greatest Conservation Need identified in State Wildlife Action Plans. The legislation will allocate new funding to each state similar to how Pittman-Robertson (wildlife) and Dingell-Johnson (fisheries) funds are distributed. The funds will be managed through the Wisconsin's State Wildlife Grant program with our current share increasing from \$1 million a year to \$20 million.

Wisconsin's 2015-2025 Wildlife Action Plan, which sets the priorities for the grant program, was developed by a broad group of state conservation groups including the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and other sporting organizations.

Wisconsin's plan designates as Species of Greatest Conservation Need 140 bird, mammal, fish and herp species and over 300 species of insects and invertebrates. Examples include monarch butterflies, bats, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Lake Sturgeon and Ornate Box Turtles. Sportsmen and women recognize that increased habitat for Species of Greatest Conservation Need will benefit game species.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Price County on April 12, 2021 recommends that all of Wisconsin's Federal Congressional delegation support the Recovering America's Wildlife Act in this session.

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Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.